

SOUTH BEND ENDODONTICS

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APPOINTMENT INFORMATION: This time is reserved specifically for you. If by necessity you must cancel your appointment, please notify our office at least **48 hours** in advance.

Patient's Name: _____ Phone # _____

Referring Doctor: _____ Phone # _____

Today's Date: _____ Appt. Date/Time: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE TEETH TO BE TREATED

R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	L
	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	

REFERRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Consultation
- Root Canal Treatment
- Re-Treatment
- Apicoectomy / Surgery
- CBCT

RESTORATIVE REQUEST:

- Final Composite / Build-up
- Make Post Space
- Other: _____

REMARKS OR INSTRUCTIONS: _____

WHAT IS AN ENDODONTIST?

An endodontist is a dentist with advanced training in treating the diseased or damaged pulp, or soft inner tissues, of your teeth. Endodontists attend at least two years of additional training to become specialists in the techniques and procedures involved in diagnosing and treating dental problems that originate inside your teeth including root canals and surgical procedures associated with the roots of teeth.

**MINORS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN
YOU WILL BE RETURNED TO YOUR REFERRING DENTIST FOR FINAL
RESTORATION**

SEE REVERSIDE SIDE FOR MAP AND PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

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PLEASE BRING THIS FORM TO YOUR APPOINTMENT

What is a Root Canal?

Endodontic therapy, or root canal, is performed when the pulp of the tooth has been damaged. The pulp consists of nerve and blood vessels within a canal that may become infected due to deep decay, deep restorations, fractures, trauma, and bacteria. Upon local anesthesia administration, a small opening is made in the top of your tooth and the infected pulp is removed from the root. Disinfection of the root occurs through the use of small shaping files and anti-bacterial rinses, sometimes taking 2 visits to complete. Finally, an inert root filling material called gutta-percha is placed inside the entire length of the root, effectively sealing the canal from further contamination. The tooth remains alive, nourished by the adjacent tissues of the gum and jaw. You should have your referring dentist permanently restore the crown of your tooth to protect the remaining tooth structure within 1 month of root canal completion.

Before Your Appointment

You should eat a full breakfast or lunch, as appropriate, before you visit. In addition, make sure to take your routine medications unless you have been advised otherwise by our office. During your consultation, please tell us about your current medications, including over-the-counter and herbal medicines. If you have previously been to our office, be sure to mention any changes in your medical status since you last visit. Also, feel free to discuss any concerns you may have about root canal therapy versus possible alternatives. And lastly, relax, our state-of-the-art office and staff are designed to accommodate your needs and fears through our expertise.

What to Expect after Treatment

After treatment, any discomfort can usually be managed with over-the-counter Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin). Your tooth will normally be sensitive to touch and chewing for several days after treatment. This is because pre-treatment and post-treatment irritation causes the membrane surrounding the tooth to be inflamed and sensitive. Prescription pain medication is rarely needed, however, it will be utilized when appropriate. Complications are rare, but swelling and severe discomfort can occur. These problems should be reported to our office promptly at the phone number displayed above. We are available via phone after normal business hours, should a problem arise.

A written report and final x-ray of your treatment will be sent to your restorative dentist. You should contact your dentist's office for a permanent restoration within one month of root canal completion. Most patients are normally able to return to work immediately.

Our Fee Policy

We are committed to providing you with the best possible care and are pleased to discuss our professional fees with you at any time. Consultation fees are payable at the time of consultation. It is the policy of this office that fees for treatment, not covered by insurance, be paid in full by the completion of treatment. We accept VISA, MasterCard, and Discover as well as personal checks for your convenience. Please ask if you have any questions about our fees, financial policy, or your responsibility. Please give at least 24 hours notice of change of appointment if cancellation is absolutely necessary, otherwise.

Insurance

If you have insurance, we will do all we can to maximize your benefit. We will file insurance claims as a courtesy to our patients. We do not accept insurance assignment as payment for a consultation visit. However, we will file your insurance claim forms so that you can be reimbursed by your insurance company to the extent of your coverage. On treatment procedures, we usually accept your insurance if we obtain appropriate insurance information prior to treatment. If we accept your insurance, you are responsible for your estimated portion.

Patient Comfort

Patient comfort is a primary concern of our office. Most non-surgical endodontic treatment is comfortably performed utilizing local anesthesia.

